of W. Va., and he had the reputation of a most powerful and effective war lord. They expected him to be an older man.

On the 23rd he began the journey across Elk back to Beverly and safety. The roads were glazed with ice. The men had to dismount and pull the artillery by hand part of the way. But they got back with all their equipment.

For endurance, courage, strength and pluck this experience of an army of 2,500 is perhaps without parallel. Why much was not made of it is hard to figure out. For the work of these 2,500 who split the Confederacy wide open and overcome the resistance of the forces of men and nature seems that of supermen. Historians have practically ignored it. Al the publicity it got at the time was from the Richmond papers and that was ridicule heaped on the Confederate forces, when no less than seven Confederate armies allowed one little Union army to cut through their lines, destroy two hundred thousand bushels of grain and other stores, tear up a railroad, and then to escape without capture.

The government recognized his campaign as a brilliant achievement, though the escape was due to pure luck, the Confederates having taken the wrong road. However, their reward was a new suit and a new pair shoes, for each of the men, to replace those worn out on the march. (From History of Pocahontas - Price Pocahontas Times Apr. 26, 1923. Written by Andrew Price.)

This march was made from New Creek in Hampshire County to Beverly by way of Salem, a distance of around 400 miles in 17 days, and in the winter time.

(Union Soldiers)

There were Union soldier from this County who went out and joined other Companies and regiments who were mostly under the commands of Gener Milroy and General Sheridan. All the names that are available are as follows:

Afhrs Thomas,

Arbogast Brown,

Arbogast George,
Buzzard Armenius,
Curry John,

Cutlip William ,

Duffield William

Duncan William
Dilly Clark,

Kellison Clark,

Kellison Andrew,

Kee James,

McCarty Peter,

Moore, David,

Moore Joseph ,

Sharp Jerimiah

Sharp Milton,

Slaton John,

(Shears David)

(Rider James)

Wanless Andrew,

Wanless Nelson,

Wanless John F

A4 Sharp
Family History
5 files -
By Ward Sharp

Chapter 4

Juanita S. Dilley
Clover Lick, W.Va.

"THE POCAHONTAS RESCUERS"

This was an infantry company organized when war threatened between the states back in 1860.

The company was mustered in on Saturday May 18, 1861 and marched on that day to defend the sacred soil of Virginia from invasion by Federal forces in the northwest. They met the invaders at Philippi, but had no luck in repelling them.

General Skeen was the lieutenant of the company. General William Skeen had served as clerk of both county and circuit courts. He was succeeded just before the war by William Curry. He appeared to be the purchasing agent for the county court, as he paid the bills for the little army, and took the receipts thereof. Under date of June 25, 1861 he rendered an itemized account under expenses incurred on March of "Pocahontas Rescues" amounting to $68.68. It was allowed and $25.00 paid on account. He notes a balance of $43.68 due him. This money had mostly been spent for blankets, shoes and gloves.

The Pocahontas Rescuers marched from Huntersville about 10 a.m. May 18, 1861. In Skeen's report he writes the following: A large crowd of ladies and gentlemen were present and at the moment of marching hardly an eye that was not wet with tears. Many accompanied us to the bridge. Then Rev. Flaherty addressed the crowd and all meekly bowed the knee in the public road while he fervently addressed a prayer in behalf of those marching and for those left behind. We halted at night in front of William Gibsons and the company were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Gibson, by John Hannah, John B. Hannah and I. M. Hogsett (These people lived on Elk)

Sunday May 19.

After the company attended church at I. M. Hogsetts and heard a patriotic sermon from Rev. Flaherty, it then marched to J. Varner's. Just as the company arrived the Cavalry under Captain Andrew McNeel on its return from Philippi came in sight. They were received with all honors. The company then heard a sermon from Rev. J. E. Moore and were dismissed and entertained by John Varner, Josiah Herold, Col. Gatewood at Big Spring. We then marched across the mountain. That night they stayed at John and Jacob Conrads and at John McLaughlins. Rained at intervals all day.

(He stopped keeping a record at the end of the third day)

This campaign lasted several weeks, yet cost Pocahontas only $68.68. In speaking of this march the old soldiers referred to it as the "Tin Cup Campaign", a cup was all the equipment furnished them. They providied their own arms.

The late Hugh P. McLaughlin always took delight in relating his experiences, as a boy, on this "Tin Cup Campaign". Somewhere along the road to Philippis they came to a farm where there was a mowing machine with its tongue propped up, in a shed. Few of them had ever seen a mower, and word was passed down the ranks that it was a cannon. One boy took a look at it, and remarked on the length of the ramrod.

Muster roll of the Pocahontas Rescuers

Captain - D. A. Stofer
Lieutenant - William Skeen
Sergeant - D. W. Slaker
Musician- Walter Roby - William H. Ervine

Privates -
James Akers
Andrew C. Alderman
Timoleon Angus
Beverly Boon
George Burr
Frederick Burr

illiam H. Carpenter, Mustoe Corbett, William Cole, George Cash, Montgomery Friel, Peter Grimes, Cyrus Gammon, John Granfield, Mathias Griffin, Amos Helmick, Charles B. Herold, William R. Hogsett Isaac B. Hanes, Robert A. Hannah, Joseph Hannah, William Henson, Adam Hamilton, Joseph I, Johnson, Joseph D. Jordan, Amos Lyons, Patric Noriarty, James H. McLaughlin, Micheal Moore, Sylvester Mitchell, William L. Pyles, John Pyles, John H. Pence, James Swadley, Lewis Smith, Cain H. Sivey, William Slavens, Lantz Seebert, James Shannon, Marti Sharp, Daniel Varner, Michael Whollihan, Patric Whollihan, Levi Waugh, Charles Weaver, Robert Weaver.

On the return of these Pocahontas Rescuers the company was disbanded, and the men with a number of additions made up Co. 1 25 th Virginia Infantry. J. Hugh McLaughlin was elected first Lieutenant.

Co. 1 25th Virginia Infantry C. S. V.

Captain - D. A. Stofer

1st Lieutenant - J. Hugh McLaughlin

Captain Stofer came from the valley of Virginia. He served as a commonwealth attorney for Pocahontas a number of years. He had been a soldier in the Mexican War and had fought a number of battles. He was wounded at Cross Keys when he fell with five bullet holes in him. But he lived to survive the war some 20 years.

The private who made up this company were the members of the Pocahontas Rescuers with the addition of the following names;

Daniel Arbogast
William Burr
Peter L. Cleek
Charles Eagon
William Gammon
Patric Moher
J. W. Mathews
Michael Shannon
C. A. Simmons
B. Franklin Shrader
George Ware
Eugene Ware
William Ware
Benjamin Ware

This company was engaged in the following battles: Philippi (this was while it was known as Pocahontas Rescues). Mc Dowell, Winchester, Cross Keys, Port Republic, 7 days fight around Richmond, Slaughter Mountain, Second Manassas, Bristow Station, Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg. Second Winchester, Gettysburg, Mine Run, and Wilderness. In the latter the 25th Regiment was captured. Co 1 from Pocahontas had been reduced (killed) to 17 men. Of these 17 men, eleven lived through the war, the other 6 died in prison.

When captured they were first taken to Point Lookout Maryland. Then to Elmira, N. Y.

Pocahontas - 4

On Monday, January 13, eleven volunteers from Pocahontas County took bus for Clarksburg where they were inducted into the army service. They were:

839-V 6 Bert H. Waugh
540 V 7 Jacob Woodrow Shinaberry.
836 V-11 Wayne Geiger
641-V 12 Jacob Gene Loury
130-V 13 Ralph Leon Long
-V-14 Wm. Raymond Bowers
V 15 Howard James Kelley
718-V-16 Roy J Houchin
421-V-19 Joseph Leonard Moses, Jr
10-V 21 Arch Waybright
694-V 22 Norman Wilson Phillips

On Thursday, January 16, another soldier will go out to Clarksburg under the selective service, in the person of 348-V-9 Thurl William Gary.

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In about five hours the young volunteers were in Clarksburg at the induction station. They will be sent from there to army posts to be thoroughly and properly trained for our and their own protection should war be forced upon us. Naturally I was interested in the going out of a company of volunteers eighty years ago from this County. This company, the Pocahontas Rescuers, took about a week to march eighty miles, to learn war in the raw. So—

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Muster roll of the "Pocahontas Rescuers" mustered into service on May 18th, 1861.

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Ervine, Wm H.
Privates, Akers, James
Alderman, Andrew C.
Angus, Timoleen
Boon, Beverly, b
Burr, George
Burr, Frederick
Carpenter, Wm H, b
Corbett, Moscoe
Cole, Wm.
Cash, George, 1 shirt $1.25, b
Friel, Montgomery R.
Grimes, Peter
Gammon, Cyrus S.
Grenfield, John b
Griffin, Matthias F.
Heinlick, Amos
Herold, Charles B.
Herold, Benjamin F.
Hogsett, William R, b
Hanes, Isaac R.
Hannah, Robert A. b
Hannah, Joseph b
Hannah, William
Hamilton, Adam G
Johnson, Joseph I
Jordan, Joseph D. b
Lyons, Enos
Moriarty, Patrick, pr shoes, b
McLaughlin, James H, b
McLaughlin, Hugh
Moore, Michael, b
Moore, Levi
Mitchell, Sylvester, b
Piles, Wm. L
Piles, John
Pence, John H
Swadley, James
Smith, Lewis, b
Sivey, Cain H , 1 shirt $1.25
Slavens, Wm W
Seebert, Lanty L
Shannon, James, b
Sharp, Martin B
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Whollihan, Patrick
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"b" signifies that they have received blankets.

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Monday 20th—March resumed at 6 1-2 a. m. Halted an hour at J. W. Marshall's and marched to Jacob Conrad's; 15 staying overnight at John Conrad's, a few going with John McLaughlin, 5 to Snyders and the rest quartered upon Jacob Conrad. Rained at intervals all day.

Constitution Of The Company

Article 1—This company shall be known by the name of Pocahontas Rescuers.

Article 2—The regular musters of the said company shall be held on the first Saturday in the month of April, May, June, August, September and October and the July muster shall be held on the 4th day of the month, save when the 4th happens to fall on Sunday, when it shall be held on the 5th.

Article 3—All fines assessed against commissioned officers for failure to attend muster shall be $5 00; non-commissioned officers $2 50; privates $1 25.

Article 4—All fines assessed shall be for the benefit of the company, to be disbursed whenever the amount of $20 or more shall be found in the hands of the treasurer unappropriated, by a vote of the Company. The majority ruling, if it is considered practiable.

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1. The board for the trial of offenses and non-attendance of members at musters and all other delinquencies shall be tried by a Court Martial, a majority of which shall rule.

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Hanes, Isaac B.

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Hannah, Joseph b

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